

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Examiner: To Be Assigned                          Art Unit: To Be Assigned  
Re: Application of:                                BLANK et al.  
Serial No.:                                        To Be Assigned  
Filed:    Herewith  
For:    **FUEL CELL HAVING A PREHEATING ZONE**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION

July 17, 2003

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, Applicant hereby makes of record the documents listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 Form (1 page) for consideration by the Examiner in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. While the references are being submitted herewith, some or all of the references may not constitute prior art under the U.S. patent laws.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b), before the mailing date of a First Office Action. Therefore, no fee is believed due.

In the event any additional fee is due in connection with this response or if any fee has been overpaid, the deficiency or overpayment should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

It is respectfully requested that the references cited in the accompanying PTO-1449 form be considered and made of record. It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are patentable over all of the references made of record at this time.

Respectfully submitted,  
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By:   
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FORM PTO-1449 (REV. 7-80)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE							ATTY. DOCKET NO.: 510.1078		SERIAL NO.: To Be Assigned			
<b>LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT(S): BLANK et al.												
		FILING DATE: Herewith					GROUP: To Be Assigned							
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>														
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	AA	6	2	9	4	2	7	8	Sep. 25, 01	Wohr et al.	429	24		
	AB													
	AC													
	AD													
	AE													
	AF													
	AG													
	AH													
	AI													
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>														
		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION	
		AJ	1	0	0	9	0	5	0	Jun. 14, 00	EP - Europe		see US 6,294,278	
		AK	20	01	23	6	9	7	8	Aug. 31, 01	JP - Japan		Yes	
		AJ	20	00	17	3	6	3	8	Jun. 23, 00	JP - Japan		Yes	
		AK	6	2	1	4	0	3	76	Jun. 23, 87	JP - Japan		Abstract only	
		AL												
		AM												
		AN												
		AO												
		AP												
<b>OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>														
	AR													
	AS													
	AT													
EXAMINER										DATE CONSIDERED				
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.														